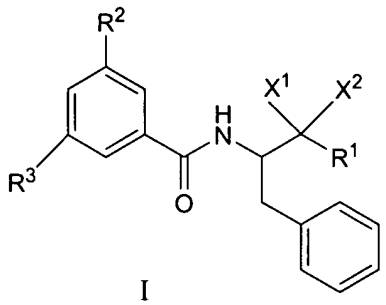
Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

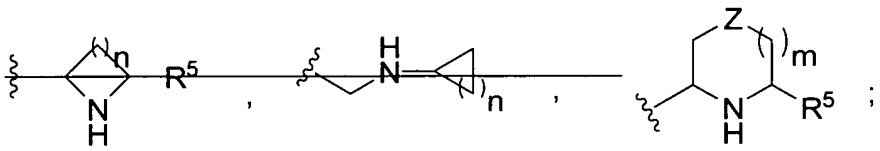
Claim 1 (currently amended) A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~:



R^2 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) R^4-$S(O)_m$-NR^5-,

(2) R^4-$S(O)_m$-,

(3) R^4NHCO-,

(4) R^4CONH-,

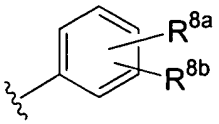
(5) R^4R^5N-,

(6) nitrile,

(7) NC- C_{1-6}alkyl-,

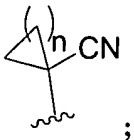
(8) halogen,

(9)



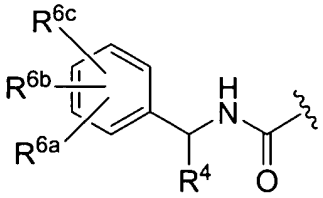
, and

(10)



;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of:



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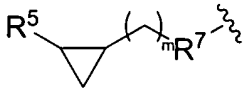
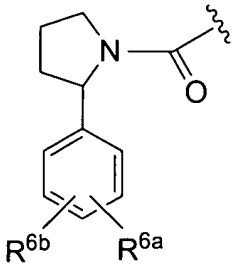


, R^5-R^7- ,



;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl,

(3) phenyl, and

(4) benzyl;

R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen;

(2) $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl,

(3) phenyl,

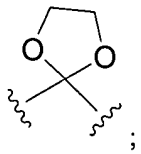
(4) benzyl, and

R^{6a}, R^{6b}, and R^{6c} are independently selected from the group consisting of:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-OR^5$,
(4) $-SR^5$, and
(5) C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of -C=C-, O, S, and NH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of CO, CH-OH, CH-F and



;

R^{8a} and R^{8b} are independently selected from the group consisting of:

(1) nitrile
(2) hydrogen,
(3) halogen,
(4) $-OR^5$,
(5) $-SR^5$,
(6) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(7) $-CO_2R^5$, and
(8) tetrazolyl;

X^1 is hydrogen and X^2 is hydroxyl~~, or X^1 and X^2 together form oxo~~;
n is independently 1, 2, 3, or 4;
m is independently 0, 1, or 2;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

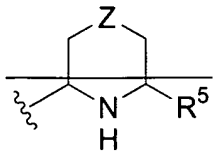
Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Canceled)

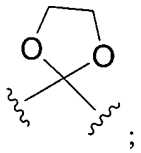
Claim 6 (currently amended) The compound of Claim 1 ~~wherein R^1 is:~~



~~and~~ wherein:

R^5 is hydrogen or methyl;

Z is selected from the group consisting of CO, CH-OH, and



;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 7 (Original) The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^2 is:

$$R^4\text{-}S(O)_2\text{-}NR^5\text{-}$$

and wherein R^4 is selected from the group consisting of:

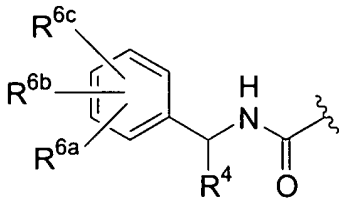
(1) hydrogen,
(2) $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl,
(3) phenyl, and
(4) benzyl;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of:

(1) $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl,
(2) phenyl,
(3) benzyl, and
(4) hydrogen;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 8 (Original) The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is:



and wherein:

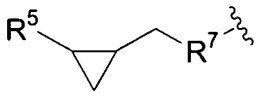
R^4 is methyl;

R^{6a} is H or F;

R^{6b} and R^{6c} are hydrogen;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 9 (Original) The compound of Claim 1 wherein R^3 is:



wherein:

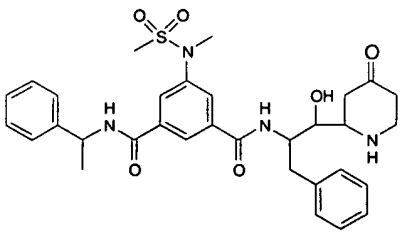
R^5 is methyl;

R^7 is O or NH;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended) The compound of Claim 3 which is selected from the group consisting of:



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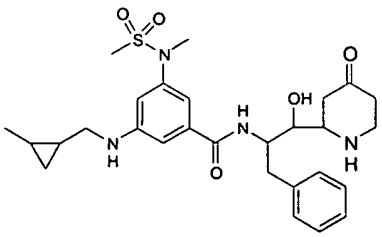

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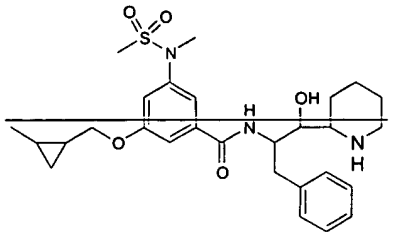
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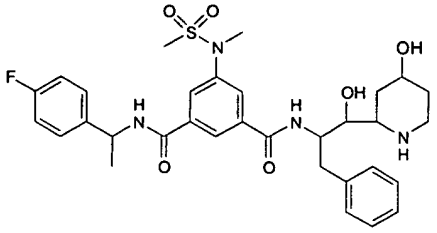
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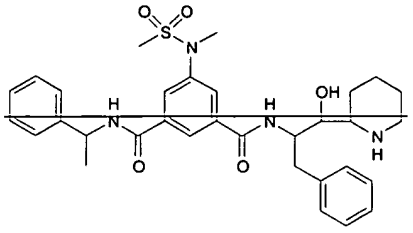
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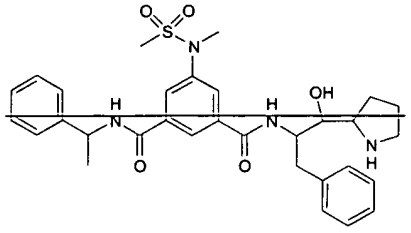
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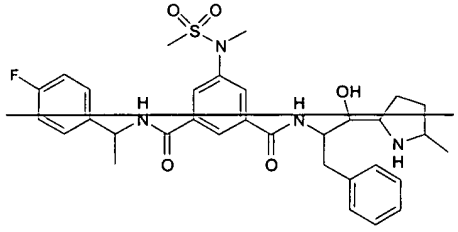
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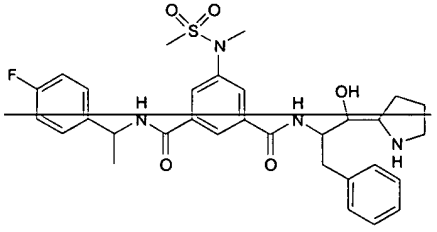
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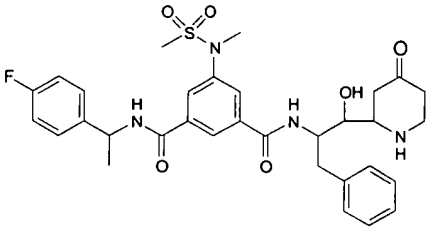
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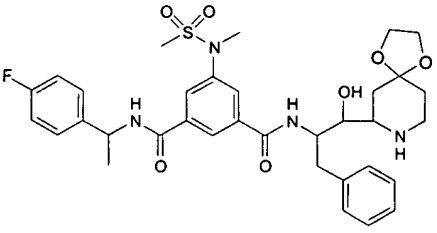
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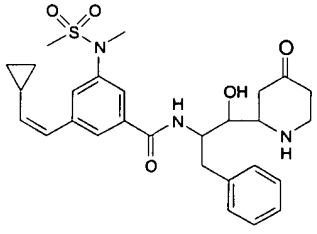
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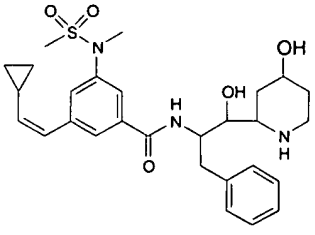
;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 12 (Original) A compound of Claim 1 in substantially diastereomerically pure form.

Claim 13 (Original) A substantially diastereomerically pure compound of Claim 1 in substantially enantiomerically pure form.

Claim 14 (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A method for inhibition of ~~β-secretase~~ β-secretase activity in a mammal which comprises administering to the mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Original) A method for treating, preventing, controlling, ameliorating or reducing the risk of Alzheimers disease in a patient comprising the administration to the patient of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.